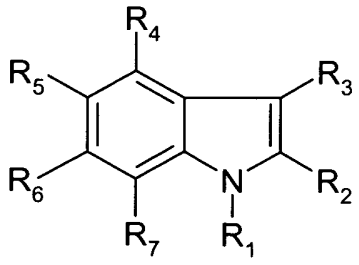
Clean Version of Claims (9/20/02)

WE CLAIM:

1. An indole compound represented by the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or prodrug derivative thereof;



(I)

wherein ;

R_1 is selected from groups (a), (b), and (c) wherein;

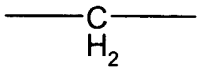
(a) is C_7-C_{20} alkyl, C_7-C_{20} haloalkyl, C_7-C_{20} alkenyl, C_7-C_{20} alkynyl or carbocyclic radical, or

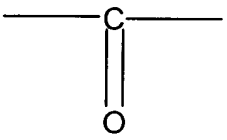
(b) is a member of (a) substituted with one or more independently selected non-interfering substituents; or

(c) is the group $-(L_1)-R_{11}$; where, $-(L_1)-$ is a divalent linking group of 1 to 8 atoms and where R_{11} is a group selected from (a)
or (b);

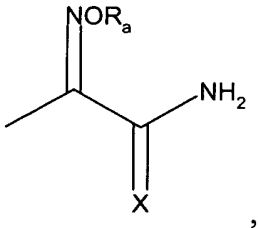
R_2 is hydrogen, or a group containing 1 to 4 non-hydrogen atoms plus any required hydrogen atoms;

R_3 is $-(L_3)-$ Z, where $-(L_3)-$ is a divalent linker group selected from a bond or a divalent group selected from:


, or



and Z is selected from a group represented by the formulae,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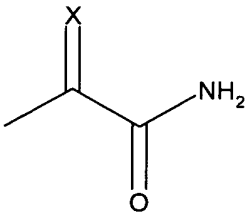
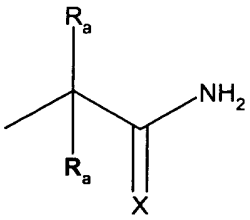


or



wherein, X is oxygen and R_a is selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, aryl, C_1-C_8 alkaryl, C_1-C_8 alkoxy, aralkyl and -CN;

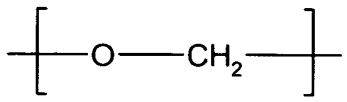
R_4 is the group, -(L_C)-(acylamino acid group); wherein -(L_C)-, is an acylamino acid linker having an acylamino acid linker length of 1 to 8;

R_5 is selected from hydrogen or a non-interfering substituent;

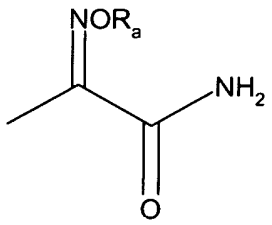
R_6 and R_7 are selected from hydrogen or a non-interfering substituent.

2. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_2 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_2-C_4 alkenyl, -O-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), -S-(C_1-C_3 alkyl), C_3-C_4 cycloalkyl, -CF_3, halo, -NO_2, -CN, or -SO_3.

4. The compound of Claim 1 wherein the acylamino acid linker group, -(Lc)-, for R_4 is a divalent group selected from,

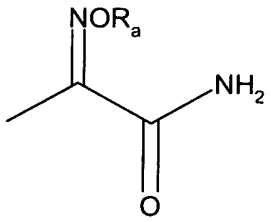


7. The compound of claim 1 wherein for R_3, Z is the group represented by the formula;



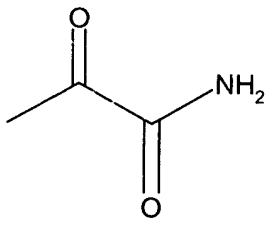
and the linking group -(L_3)- is a bond; and R_a is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, phenyl or benzyl.

8. The compound of claim 1 wherein for R_3, Z is the group represented by the formula;



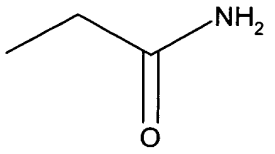
and the linking group -(L_3)- is a bond; and R_a is hydrogen.

9. The compound of claim 1 wherein for R_3, Z is the group represented by the formula;



and the linking group -(L_3)- is a bond.

10. The compound of claim 1 wherein for R_3, Z is the group represented by the formula;

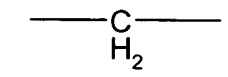


and the linking group -(L_3)- is a bond.

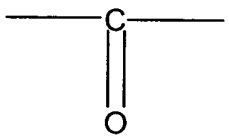
11. The compound of Claim 1 wherein, for R_6 the non-interfering substituent is hydrogen, C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, C_2-C_8 alkynyl, C_7-C_{12} aralkyl, C_7-C_{12} alkaryl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkenyl, phenyl, tolulyl, xylenyl, biphenyl, C_1-C_8 alkoxy, C_2-C_8 alkenyloxy, C_2-C_8 alkynyloxy, C_2-C_{12} alkoxyalkyl, C_2-C_{12} alkoxyalkyloxy, C_2-C_{12} alkylcarbonyl, C_2-C_{12} alkylcarbonylamino, C_2-C_{12} alkoxyamino, C_2-C_{12} alkoxyaminocarbonyl, C_1-C_{12} alkylamino, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, C_2-C_{12} alkylthiocarbonyl, C_1-C_8 alkylsulfinyl, C_1-C_8 alkylsulfonyl, C_2-C_8 haloalkoxy, C_1-C_8 haloalkylsulfonyl, C_2-C_8 haloalkyl,

C_1-C_8 hydroxyalkyl, -C(O)O(C_1-C_8 alkyl), -$(CH_2)_n$-O-(C_1-C_8 alkyl), benzyloxy, phenoxy, phenylthio, -($CONHSO_2R$), -CHO, amino, amidino, bromo, carbamyl, carboxyl, carbalkoxy, -$(CH_2)_n$-CO_2H, chloro, cyano, cyanoguanidinyl, fluoro, guanidino, hydrazide, hydrazino, hydrazido, hydroxy, hydroxyamino, iodo, nitro, phosphono, -SO_3H, thioacetal, thiocarbonyl, or carbonyl; where n is from 1 to 8.

12. The compound of Claim 1 wherein for R_1 the divalent linking group -(L_1)- is selected from a group represented by the formulae (Ia), (Ib), (Ic), (Id), (Ie), and (If):



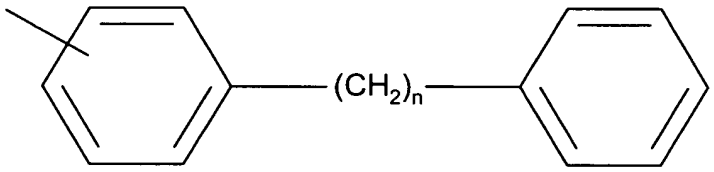
(Ia) or



(Ie)

13. The compound of claim 1 wherein the linking group -(L_1)- of R_1 is -(CH_2)-.

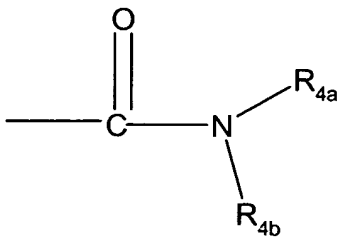
15. The compound of claim 1 wherein for R_1 the group R_{11} is a substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic radical selected from the group consisting of cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, phenyl, spiro[5.5]undecanyl, naphthyl, norbornanyl, bicycloheptadienyl, tolulyl, xylenyl, indenyl, stilbenyl, terphenylyl, diphenylethylenyl, phenyl-cyclohexenyl, acenaphthylenyl, and anthracenyl, biphenyl, bibenzylyl and related bibenzylyl homologues represented by the formula (a):



(a)

where n is a number from 1 to 8.

18. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_4 is the group, -(L_C)-(acylamino acid group) and wherein the (acylamino acid group) is:



and R^{4a} is selected from the group consisting of H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkoxy, heteroaryl and aryl; and wherein NR^{4b} is an amino acid residue with the nitrogen atom being part of the amino group of the amino acid.

21. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a indole compound as claimed in claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent therefor.

22. A method of inhibiting $sPLA_2$ mediated release of fatty acid which comprises contacting $sPLA_2$ with a therapeutically effective amount of indole compound as claimed in claim 1.

26. Use of a pharmaceutical composition comprising $sPLA_2$ inhibitor compounds according to Claim 1 and mixtures thereof for treatment of Inflammatory Diseases comprising administering a therapeutic amount of said compound to a patient in need thereof.